PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

HIKITA et al. Group Art Unit: 2827

Application No.: 09/496,183 Examiner: Cruz, Lourdes C.

Filed: February 2, 2000 Attorney Dkt. No.: 103213-00051

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND SEMICONDUCTOR CHIP FOR USE THEREIN

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Date: July 10, 2003

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as shown on the following pages: